

known as the "Punchbowl," in Honolulu, Hawaii.

In 2015, the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency exhumed remains from the Punchbowl, with the goal of returning identified service members to their families. After two years of work, Lowell was identified in January of 2018 by using DNA from his brother Bob and other family members. He is the last of three Upper Peninsula men who were killed in the Pearl Harbor attack to be identified.

Lowell's name is recorded on the Courts of the Missing at the Punchbowl Cemetery, along with the others who are missing from World War II. A rosette will be placed next to his name to indicate he has been accounted for. Following his death Lowell was honored with a Purple Heart, the American Campaign Medal, and the World War II Victory Medal. An interment ceremony for Lowell will be held on July 14, 2018, at the Holy Family Catholic Church in Ontonagon. His remains will be escorted by a full Honor Guard and rifle squad, as well as by Veterans from across the country.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize Lowell Valley for making the ultimate sacrifice in defense of his country. On behalf of Michigan's First Congressional District, I ask you to join with me in honoring an American hero as he returns home.

#### HONORING WILLIAM S. LYONS

#### HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 16, 2018*

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize 1st Lieutenant William S. Lyons, also known as 'Tiger Lyons.' Mr. Lyons was part of the 355th Fighter Group. Mr. Lyons became a flight leader with 63 missions and completed his 300 combat hours in March 1945.

The 355th Fighter Group, which Mr. Lyons served in, had pioneered ground strafing techniques and it was the 355th Fighter Group who destroyed more enemy aircraft by ground strafing than any other Eighth Air Force Group. Based at Steeple Morden from July 1943 to July 1945, the Group flew Thunderbolts and Mustangs as escorts for bombers and in area patrols and fighter sweeps.

For his service he was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross, Air Medal with 8 Oak Leaf Cluster, 5 European Theater Operation Battle Stars, European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal, World War II Victory Medal, and 2 Presidential Unit Citations.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank Mr. Lyons for his service to the country and to express our gratitude for all that his team did during their war to protect the freedoms we all enjoy today.

#### JERRY PIFER

#### HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 16, 2018*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Jerry Pifer for

her hard work and dedication to the people of the 7th Congressional District.

Since I met Jerry in 2003, she has become a great friend and an instrumental member of my team. For more than 10 years, she has worked in my congressional office as part of the constituent services team and handled the issues of healthcare, Medicare/Medicaid, Social Security, labor and postal. Her wealth of experience with labor issues and in customer service made her a tremendous asset to our team and to the constituents we serve. Her relationships with local officials, liaisons at federal agencies, and within the community helped ensure she was always able to help answer questions, direct folks to the appropriate resources, and at times even secure money or benefits that were owed.

Prior to serving in my congressional office, Jerry worked as a Flight Attendant for United Airlines for 30 years. After retiring from United Airlines, she got involved in the Colorado Democratic Party and helped run the Colorado campaign for John Kerry's presidential bid from 2003–2004. From there, she helped make my first congressional campaign a success and went on to help open my first congressional office in 2007.

Jerry has a true gift for working with people, always able to make them feel comfortable and welcome with her good nature and sense of humor. I extend my deepest appreciation to Jerry Pifer for the difference she made in the lives of many people in our community. I will forever be grateful for her service to our team, the district, and the United States of America.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF AMBASSADOR ROBERTA S. JACOBSON

#### HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 16, 2018*

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the career and service of Roberta S. Jacobson, U.S. Ambassador to Mexico.

Ambassador Jacobson represented the best interests of the United States and showed exceptional poise while dealing with a variety of complex issues as a diplomat. I personally want to thank her for her years of strong leadership, dedication to service, and unyielding commitment to improving relations with Mexico. I would also like to recognize her for being outspoken on countless issues including violence against women, human rights, and journalist safety.

Ambassador Jacobson served in a variety of important roles throughout her career, including Director of the Office of Policy Planning and Coordination in the Bureau of Western Hemisphere Affairs, Deputy Chief of Mission at the U.S. Embassy in Lima, Peru, Director of the Office of Mexican Affairs, and Deputy Assistant Secretary for Canada, Mexico, and NAFTA issues in the Bureau. She would soon serve as Assistant Secretary of State for Western Hemisphere Affairs where she is noted for leading the U.S. delegation in historic talks with the government of Cuba to normalize relations. Eventually she would be confirmed and sworn in as the first female U.S. ambassador to Mexico.

She received a Bachelor of Arts from Brown University and received her Master of Arts in

Law and Diplomacy from the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University. She would then go on to a long and successful career in the service of our country.

In addition to her diplomatic work, she is the author of several articles including "The Committee for the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women" in the United Nations and Human Rights and "Liberation Theology as a Revolutionary Ideology."

For these reasons and more, Ambassador Jacobson will be remembered for her work and leadership, for years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to have the opportunity to recognize the career of Ambassador Jacobson.

#### RECOGNIZING SERGEANT MAJOR JUAN J. MARTINEZ

#### HON. JOHN R. CARTER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 16, 2018*

Mr. CARTER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I'm honored to celebrate and recognize the heroic work of an exceptional citizen of our district, Sergeant Major Juan J. Martinez, USMC, Retired. Throughout his extraordinary military career and beyond, he has dedicated himself to a life of service to both Central Texas and this remarkable country.

SgtMaj Martinez 1972 enlisted in the United States Marine Corps in 1972. Since then he has spent every waking day displaying Marine Corps values of honor, courage, and commitment as he worked his way up to the rank of Sergeant Major in 1997. Throughout his thirty years with the USMC, SgtMaj Martinez displayed outstanding leadership and selflessness, resulting in numerous awards and commendations, including the prestigious Meritorious Service and Marine Corp Commendation Medals.

SgtMaj Martinez's work was not limited to military service alone as he took it upon himself to be a role model and instructor in Texas schools. Central Texas has been blessed to have SgtMaj Martinez teach the MCJROTC at Round Rock High School for the past ten years. His encouragement and passion for the Marine Corps has instilled in our youth a sense of duty and shown them the fruits of a lifetime of service.

SgtMaj Martinez has gone above and beyond the expected duties of a Marine and has led our youth to new heights. We are grateful for each year he has dedicated to our country. He has blessed Central Texas with his hard work, valor, and I am proud here to congratulate him on his retirement after decades of service.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. DANIEL WEBSTER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 16, 2018*

Mr. WEBSTER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to travel back to Washington due to illness. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 181; YEA on Roll Call No. 182; and YEA on Roll Call No. 183.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. LLOYD SMUCKER**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 16, 2018*

Mr. SMUCKER. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 181; YEA on Roll Call No. 182; and YEA on Roll Call No. 183.

CHRISTOPHER D'URSO: AN EXTRAORDINARY RHODES SCHOLAR

**HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 16, 2018*

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Christopher D'Urso, a senior at the University of Pennsylvania from Colts Neck, NJ, in my district, who was one of only 32 candidates nationwide selected as a 2018 Rhodes Scholar, for a three-year doctoral program at Oxford University.

Christopher graduated from the University of Pennsylvania this week with a Master's of Public Administration (MPA) and a Certificate in Politics through Penn's Fels Institute of Government—the youngest student to graduate the university with an MPA. He also earned a Bachelor of Arts in International Relations, and was named Valedictorian of the International Relations Senior Class of 2018, with a 4.0 GPA.

This fall, Christopher will begin pursuing a doctorate in Public Policy at Oxford's renowned Blavatnik School of Government as one of only five full-time students worldwide selected to enroll in this program.

Rhodes Scholarships honor young men and women not only for their achievements, but “for their character, commitment to others and to the common good, and for their potential for leadership in whatever domains their careers may lead.”

Christopher most certainly meets these high standards, as I have seen first-hand his keen intellect, passion for public service, outstanding leadership qualities and commitment to excellence. From 2013 to 2014, he interned in my district office where he assisted our staff with casework matters by helping provide valuable information from government agencies.

As a high school student, his research on loopholes in U.S. country-of-origin labeling laws that pose risks to consumer safety was so well-conducted that in 2014, he testified before the China Commission alongside officials from the USDA and the FDA in a hearing on concerns over food exports from China. He also produced a report with legislative recommendations on the issue.

I know that consumer safety and public service are important issues for Christopher—while at Penn, he founded Penn CASE, a student-led consumer assistance outreach program for local residents. Christopher also worked for the Monmouth County Department of Consumer Affairs for three years, investigating 70 consumer complaints—many of them related to Hurricane Sandy—and helping return over \$114,000 to local citizens.

His senior project, a report on “Translating Justice: An Evaluation of U.S. Efforts to Sup-

port Criminal Procedure Reform in Panama,” was borne out of his recent trip to Panama as part of his MP A capstone project; he interviewed Panamanian and U.S. officials on the country's criminal justice system and evaluated U.S. programs created to help reform the system. Christopher won Penn's Rose Undergraduate Research Award for his work, and he will share his evaluation and recommendations with the U.S. Department of Justice, the State Department, and the Panamanian Embassy.

As Christopher graduates and prepares to attend Oxford in the fall, I wish him all the best in this exciting new step in his life.

TRIBUTE TO MS. ELISA IRENE  
DeLARGE

**HON. ROBERT A. BRADY**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 16, 2018*

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor my constituent, Ms. Elisa Irene DeLarge, on her graduation from high school and her matriculation to college.

Ms. DeLarge is a soon-to-be graduate of William W. Bodine High School, where she earned a 3.7GPA over four years. Her success in academics is a testament to her hard work, tireless work ethic and devotion to her future. Ms. DeLarge's will continue her academic career by taking courses at The Community College of Philadelphia this summer and attending The University of Michigan this Fall.

In addition to her own academic success, Ms. DeLarge is also committed to aiding future graduates of Philadelphia schools. Ms. DeLarge devotes countless hours to tutoring elementary and middle school students at the Narcissa S. Cruz Recreation Center. This act of selfless mentorship further speaks to Ms. DeLarge's work ethic and morals.

Mr. Speaker, please join me today in congratulating Ms. DeLarge today.

A TRAGIC DAY FOR PALESTINIAN  
RIGHTS AND AMERICAN LEADERSHIP

**HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 16, 2018*

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, Monday's events in Jerusalem and Gaza will long be remembered as the day the U.S. formally abandoned its role as mediator and peacemaker in the conflict between Israel and the Palestinians. The Trump administration's decision to move the U.S. Embassy to Jerusalem was a grave departure from internationally recognized norms regarding the final status of Jerusalem. Monday's opening ceremony of the new U.S. Embassy in Jerusalem will prove to be a historic mistake that will haunt future U.S. presidents long after Donald Trump has departed the White House.

The ceremony marking the Embassy's opening was made for television, as well as the right-wing voters in America and Israel the policy was intended to appeal to. The prospects of peace were discarded and no consid-

eration was given to the existence of millions of Palestinians living under Israeli military occupation or the fact that just miles away from the new Embassy more than 60 Palestinian protesters were being killed by Israeli snipers. The extremist, homophobic, and racist televangelists—John Hagee and Robert Jeffress—were invited by the Trump administration to offer prayers on behalf of the America people at the ceremony. Their presence and prominent roles can only be described as an insult to American and Christian values.

Israel is a nation that enjoys security and military superiority largely as a result of the generosity of American taxpayers. The rights and freedoms enjoyed by Jewish citizens of Israel are not enjoyed by non-Jews who suffer discrimination as second-class citizens. For the millions of Palestinians living under Israeli military occupation there are no human rights, only repression, violence; and the constant pressure of having their land, water, and dignity taken from them.

I believe in the critical role of the U.S. as a global leader for advancing human rights and justice. It should infuriate and illicit outrage among Americans to witness the Trump administration abandoning such leadership in exchange for a payback on political debts to right-wing special interest groups. For the Israelis and Palestinians who still believe that diplomacy, dialogue, and reducing conflict are the only path to peace, I will state clearly that the Trump administration cannot and must not be trusted with the future of your children or your countries.

I include in the RECORD a column by Michelle Goldbert from the New York Times entitled A Grotesque Spectacle in Jerusalem that outlines the day that destroyed U.S. leadership in the Middle East. The more than sixty Palestinian protesters who were killed by Israeli snipers and soldiers have been buried. Their families and friends grieve. For Americans who believe the U.S. is a force to advance human rights, equality, and justice, we also grieve because Monday's spectacle in Jerusalem placed the U.S. on the side of oppression and repression of a people seeking basic human rights, freedom and self-determination. It was a truly grotesque spectacle.

[From the New York Times: May 14, 2018]

(By Michelle Goldberg)

## A GROTESQUE SPECTACLE IN JERUSALEM

On Monday, Ivanka Trump, Jared Kushner and other leading lights of the Trumpist right gathered in Israel to celebrate the relocation of the American Embassy to Jerusalem, a gesture widely seen as a slap in the face to Palestinians who envision East Jerusalem as their future capital.

The event was grotesque. It was a summation of the cynical alliance between hawkish Jews and Zionist evangelicals who believe that the return of Jews to Israel will usher in the apocalypse and the return of Christ, after which Jews who don't convert will burn forever.

Religions like “Mormonism, Islam, Judaism, Hinduism” lead people “to an eternity of separation from God in Hell,” Robert Jeffress, a Dallas megachurch pastor, once said. He was chosen to give the opening prayer at the embassy ceremony. John Hagee, one of America's most prominent end-times preachers, once said that Hitler was sent by God to drive the Jews to their ancestral homeland. He gave the closing benediction.

This spectacle, geared toward Donald Trump's Christian American base, coincided